
THE ACTS CHURCH 2:42
"EXPERIENCE REAL CHURCH"

January 26, 2014

TEXT: *Joshua 2:1-9 KJV*

And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there. (2) And it was told the king of Jericho, saying, Behold, there came men in hither to night of the children of Israel to search out the country. (3) And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country. (4) And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they were: (5) And it came to pass about the time of shutting of the gate, when it was dark, that the men went out: whither the men went I wot not: pursue after them quickly; for ye shall overtake them. (6) But she had brought them up to the roof of the house, and hid them with the stalks of flax, which she had laid in order upon the roof. (7) And the men pursued after them the way to Jordan unto the fords: and as soon as they which pursued after them were gone out, they shut the gate. (8) And before they were laid down, she came up unto them upon the roof; (9) And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

INTRO: *Rahab Receives God's Grace*

Joshua sent spies to check out Jericho

The spies went to a tavern run by Rahab the harlot

Word got to the king, the king sent his guards to check out Rahab

Rahab hid the spies and sent the guards on a wild goose chase

Rahab tells the spies that – *all of Jericho is terrified because of the Children of Israel and the reputation of the LORD their God*

Rahab negotiates her salvation as well as for her family

The spies agree to her request and make arrangements for her safety

Rahab lets the spies down the city wall with a scarlet cord

"Bind the scarlet thread in the window of your home! All inside will be save"

Warning to be in the house when the LORD delivers Jericho over

The spies returned to Joshua and reported all ***Joshua 2:24 KJV*** And they said unto Joshua, Truly the LORD hath delivered into our hands all the land; for even all the inhabitants of the country do faint because of us.

I. *Was Joshua Doubting or Fearful?*

He sent Spies to the land – WHY?

Joshua needed the logistics – map the terrain – guide the armies

God knew that there was a women and her family that needed to be saved

Cornelius ***Acts 10:4-5 KJV***

And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God. (5) And now send men to Joppa, and call for one Simon, whose surname is Peter:

Paul and Silas ***Acts 16:21-33 KJV***

And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. (22) And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. (23) And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: (24) Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. (25) And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. (26) And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. (27) And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. (28) But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. (29) Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, (30) And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? (31) And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

(32) And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. (33) And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway.

Jesus and the Woman at the Well *John 4:3-7 KJV*

He left Judaea, and departed again into Galilee. (4) ***And he must needs go through Samaria****. (5) Then cometh he to a city of Samaria, which is called Sychar, near to the parcel of ground that Jacob gave to his son Joseph. (6) Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied with his journey, sat thus on the well: and it was about the sixth hour. (7) There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: ***Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink***. John 4:25-26 KJV The woman saith unto him, ***I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ***: when he is come, he will tell us all things. (26) ***Jesus saith unto her, I that speak unto thee am he***. John 4:28-30 KJV The woman then left her waterpot, and went her way into the city, and saith to the men, (29) ***Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?*** (30) Then they went out of the city, and came unto him. John 4:39-42 KJV And ***many of the Samaritans of that city believed on him*** for the saying of the woman, which testified, He told me all that ever I did. (40) So when the Samaritans were come unto him, ***they besought him that he would tarry with them: and he abode there two days.*** (41) And ***many more believed because of his own word***; (42) And said unto the woman, Now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard him ourselves, and know that ***this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world***.

4:4* **Samaria** was on the direct route from Judea to Galilee. But few Jews ever took this direct route. The region of Samaria was so despised by the Jewish people that they often took a very roundabout route through Perea to get north into Galilee. Thus, when it says that Jesus **needed to go through Samaria**, the thought is not so much that He was compelled to do so by geographical considerations, but rather by the fact that there was a needy soul in **Samaria** He could help.

this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world

II. *That The World May Know*

God's Reputation

Joshua 2:9-11 KJV

And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of

the land faint because of you. (10) For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed. (11) And as soon as we had heard these things, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: ***for the LORD your God, he is God in heaven above, and in earth beneath***.

JOHN 17:20-23 KJV

Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; (21) That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: ***that the world may believe that thou hast sent me***. (22) And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: (23) I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and ***that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me***.

III. THE REST OF THE STORY

JOSHUA 6:22-23 KJV

But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, ***Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.*** (23) ***And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel***.

HEBREWS 11:31 KJV

By faith the harlot Rahab perished not with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

RAHAB RECEIVES GOD'S GRACE!